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THE South-Carolina Gazette.

Containing the freſheſt Advices Foreign and Domeſtick.

From Saturday, *Auguſt* 12, to Saturday, *Auguſt* 19, 1732.

Williamsburgh, in Virginia, June 1.

THE Law made laſt Year for reviving our Staple, by appointing Inſpectors in every County, who had Power to burn unmerchantable Tobacco, &c. had like to have produc'd ſome publick Diſturbances; certain ill-minded Perſons, having induſtriouſly endeavoured to perſuade the poorer ſort of Planters, that this Law was calculated for their Oppreſſion and Ruin: But by the Prudence and Vigilance of the Government, the beginning Inſurrections were timely ſuppreſſed. And ſome Papers having been ſince publiſhed, wherein the People are better informed as to the Deſign of the Law, Things ſeem now to grow more quiet and ſettled.

On the 18th paſt the Aſſembly of this Colony met here, when the Hon. *William Gooch*, Eſq; our Governor, made the following *Speech*.

Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Houſe of Burgeſſes.

THE Law for improving our Staple and Trade, which by your Wiſdom and Reſolution was framed the laſt Seſſion of Aſſembly, having met with Favour from his moſt Excellent Majeſty, to the equal Satisfaction of its Friends, and Diſappointment of its Enemies, by the ſame vigorous Endeavours will effectually baffle all preſent Diſcontent, and unite us in Intereſt to eſtabliſh and enlarge the Hopes we may juſtly conceive will be the reſult of a due Execution of it.

The Oppoſition this Law at firſt ſet out with, has aſſiduouſly followed it to every Place thro' which it was to paſs to the Royal Preſence: Nor was the gracious Allowance to it found there, ſufficient to check the Competition; for it ſtill purſues, and your Unanimity only can ſilence it.

And, becauſe the moſt plauſible Objection was the moſt like to prevail, the common Planters, whoſe Intereſts it will more eſpecially ſerve, have been repreſented as Men expoſed by it to great Oppreſſion; & thoſe very Hardſhips it will relieve them from, have been diſguiſed to a quite different Purpoſe, before thoſe Judges whoſe Ears are open to the Complaints of the Poor.

But ſince under the moſt wholſome Laws, there's no anſwering for the univerſal good Conducts of particular Men, every Tranſaction under new Regulations ſhould not be looked upon with a ſevere Eye, nor be made Matter of Suſpicion and Accuſation.

However, by judging favourable of the Actions of others, and conſidering how far Ignorance and Miſtake may tempt Men to rebel againſt Intereſt, we ſhall be led to pity the deluded Authors of our late popular Tumults; and the rather, ſince we may hope the Indulgence ſhewn them, will make them cautious for the future; and that every one will be thankful, who, by his own Defaults, ſhuts not himſelf out from Favour.

The Way being now cleared for your Conſultations, if, out of your further Care and Concern for the Welfare of this Colony, you reſolve upon ſuch Amendments to this Law, as will remove the Inconveniencies that may be urged againſt it, don't let the Difficulties which may occur, diſcourage you, nor the Faults which may appear in the Complaints themſelves, diſpleaſe you.

The timely Aſſiſtance the Law this Year yields our Trade, gives us manifeſt Proof of the Uſefulneſs of it: Nor can we now be ſo ignorant of its Utility as not to know, that a greater Injury can't be done to this Country, than by neglecting to improve it.

Suffer me, therefore, to put you in mind, that the allowing Maſters of Ships, the Uſe

of

of their own Men, in carrying Tobacco on Board from the Warehouſes, will greatly facilitate their Diſpatch, and prove beneficial to the Freighters and Merchants.

Giving eaſe to ſome Tenants who pay their Rent in Inſpected Tobacco, and alſo a reaſonable Abatement for Tobacco Debts, contracted before the Commencement of this Act, and paid at the Warehouſes, will be worthy your Conſideration, as it tends to the Relief of the poor Debtors, and can be no injuſtice to their Creditors.

Nor muſt I omit recommending to you the Leſſening of the Charges of the Execution of this Law; which, I am perſuaded, by your Prudence may be effected, without weakning that juſt Care which ought to be had for Amending the Quality of our Staple.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Burgeſſes,

Since your laſt Seſſion, His Majeſty has been pleaſed, on the Petition of the *Britiſh Merchants*, to repeal the Act you then made, for continuing the Duty on Liquors: As the neceſſary Occaſions of the Colony will, I doubt not, diſpoſe you to revive that Duty, you ſhall have the Peruſal of a Letter I received from one of the Secretaries of the Board of Trade, which contains the Reaſon for that Repeal.

I have alſo received from his Majeſty, an additional Inſtruction, prohibiting the laying any Duty on Slaves, to be paid by the Importer; which ſhall be laid before you.

Gentlemen of the Council, and Gentlemen of the Houſe of Burgeſſes,

As theſe are all the Particulars, at preſent neceſſary for me to commit to your Care & Management, I hope you will proceed to debate of them, and whatever elſe you ſhall judge expedient for the People of *Virginia*, with that Harmony and good Agreement, that may work their Eſtabliſhment: And as they are the Foundation of your future Proſperity, which is all the Intereſt I have in them, it will be worth your while to conſider, that if the Lords of Trade were ſo ſcrupulouſly tender of the Circumſtances of the poor Planters, as, partly on their Account, to recommend this Law to a probationary Trial only, you may reaſonably expect, that in any Law made for the Advantage of our Commerce, their Lordſhips will be as watchful of the King's Intereſt, and be upon their Guard againſt any Step prejudicial to the Merchants Trading hither. And therefore, ſince no Law will be of any long Continuance, unleſs it is founded upon theſe Principles, you will, I truſt, purſuing the Rules of Juſtice, eſteem it the greateſt Prudence to cheriſh and ſupport this Law, wherein they are confirmed.

By this Means, while we are endeavouring to put our Trade into a flouriſhing Condition, we ſhall demonſtrate to the World, that we are ſolicitous to pay our Duty to the King, and are equally concerned to provide for the Intereſt of others, as we are to recover and preſerve our own.

If we thus temper our Proceedings, and thereby prevent Complaints at Home, rendering our ſelves as beneficial to *Great Britain* as Maternal Affection may demand of us, we ſhall become as happy a People as any upon Earth, and as ſuch, fit Subjects for our moſt amiable Monarch.

The humble Addreſs *of the Council, in Aſſembly, to the Hon.* William Gooch, *Eſq; His Majeſty's Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Colony and Dominion of* Virginia.

S I R,

IT is with the greateſt Pleaſure, that we, his Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Council of this his Colony, now met in General Aſſembly, return you our moſt ſincere Thanks for your affectionate Speech at the Opening of this Seſſion.

The Law for the amending the Staple of Tobacco, was framed on ſuch honeſt and juſt Principles, and is ſo well adapted to retrieve our decayed Trade, that the Oppoſition it has met with at Home, we are apprehenſive it muſt have proceeded from a want of Knowledge of our unhappy Circumſtances, and the inevitable Neceſſity of reforming the Abuſes in the Management of our Staple.

But, if it hath received a more violent Oppoſition here, from Men, who have been long accuſtomed to the vile practice of deceiving their Neighbours by falſe-pack'd and unmerchantable Tobacco, this ought to be no Diſcouragement to its future Execution; nor ſhould the publick Good of the Country be obſtructed by the Clamours of a few deluded People, whoſe late vain and impotent Atempts are deteſted by every one who hath at Heart the true Intereſt of his Country.

As for us, we are fully perſuaded we cannot better recommend ourſelves to the Favour of our moſt gracious Sovereign, nor demonſtrate our Regard to the mutual Intereſts of our Mother Country, and this Colony, than by purſuing ſuch Meaſures as tend to the ſecuring his Majeſty's Intereſt in his Cuſtoms, affording a valuable Commodity for ſupplying the *Britiſh* and foreign Markets (the ſureſt Means of enlarging the *Britiſh* Trade) and recovering to the honeſt Induſtrious Planter a ſuitable Return for his Labour.

And, as thoſe were the Ends propoſed, and we hope will ſtill prove the happy Effects of this Law, ſo we muſt declare our Opinion, that the pooreſt Planter hath his Intereſt equally,

if not more abundantly advanced by it, than those of more plentiful Fortunes, who are far from repining at the sacrificing part of their private Profits to the publick Good.

We beg leave to assure you, Sir, that we shall readily concur in all Measures that shall be found expedient, for facilitating the Lading & Dispatch of the Ships, and rendering the Execution of this Law more easy and agreeable. And, since by your Clemency to Offenders, you have already silenc'd those whom Reason could not persuade; we doubt not the Consideration of their own Interest still growing visible, under the just and prudent Regulations, will soon dissipate all Discontent & Opposition.

In these, and all other Matters for the publick Service, we shall contribute our utmost Endeavours, with a Zeal becoming the Duty of good Subjects and faithful Servants of the best of Sovereigns, and with that Regard which is due to your Honour's mild and prudent Administration.

His Honour's ANSWER.

Gentlemen,

I Heartily thank you for this kind Address: Such a Concurrence of your Endeavours to support and render the Tobacco Law easy and agreeable to the Trade, as well as the People, will, I doubt not, have an happy Influence to remove all Prejudice against it, and enable me, when thus assisted, more effectually to promote His Majesty's Service, and the Prosperity of this Colony.

May 20, 1732.

The humble Address *of the House of* Burgesses.

SIR,

WE his Majesty's most loyal and dutiful Subjects, the Representatives of the People of this Colony, now met in Assembly, do sincerely return you our hearty Thanks, for your kind Speech to the Council of this House; but more especially for the great Care and Pains you have taken, in supporting the Act passed at our last Session for improving the Staple of Tobacco, against all the Opposition it has met with in *Great Britain:* Wherein we are supprized to find any there seeming to be affected with a greater Tenderness for the poor Planters, than the whole Legislature of this Colony, and accusing of our Body of a Design to oppress them; when no Hardship or Inconvenience can possibly be laid upon them, which will not be felt by us, in a greater Degree: But it is Matter of great Consolation to us, that this Imputation has made no Impression upon his sacred Majesty, whose Wisdom and Justice is very conspicuous, in leaving us to be justified by Experience: And we persuade ourselves, that, as the wretched and deplorable State of the Tobacco Trade, made it necessary for us to put it under some Regulation, no better Expedients can be proposed, than destroying that which is not fit to be sold in any Market in the World; and preventing by a careful Inspection, the many Frauds that have manifestly contributed to reduce that Commodity to so low a Price, as cannot defray the Expence of making it: And we flatter ourselves, that all reasonable Men will be convinced, from the short Experience they have had of the Honesty and Impartiality of those who are intrusted with the Execution of this Law, that these Ends will in a great Measure be attained, and the Trade restored to such a Condition, as may at least enable us to live by it.

The late Tumults, which have been raised by an inconsiderable Number of ignorant deluded People, who have dared to threaten the Government with open Violence, is to us a Subject of Contempt, as well as Abhorrence, and cannot turn us from our just Purposes, nor discourage us to hope for the Continuance of his Majesty's good Opinion of our Proceedings. Yet we cannot but acknowledge and approve your Prudence and Lenity, after suppressing those Disorders by singular Diligence and Management, in suffering the Offenders to attone for their Boldness by a peaceable and submissive Deportment, without undergoing any other Punishment than the Shame and Reproach of their own Misdoings.

And we do assure you, that we are so well disposed to give Satisfaction to every Body, in this important Business, that nothing shall be wanting, on our Parts, to amend whatever may appear the least inconvenient, either to the People here, or the Merchants in *Great Britain*; and to remove all just Grounds of Complaint against any Part of the Law, which we desire so sincerely to cherish and support,

And, seeing we have hitherto succeeded very well in all our Consultations, by your Assistance, and the Influence and Credit you have in *England*; we beg the Continuance of your Affection, Zeal, and Vigilance for the Good of this People, so happily conducted by your wise and unexceptionable Administration.

His Honour's ANSWER.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses,

THIS Address, for which I heartily thank you, is very agreeable to the Sentiments I have always had of you; and at the same Time, that you encourage me to employ my good Offices and Credit in Great Britain, *for the Service of the People under my Government, I am persuaded your Constancy and Unanimity will satisfy those, who desire to have the same Abuses established which have heretofore ruined your Trade, that their Hopes are in vain.*

Therefore go on in the same laudable Resolution, to promote Honesty and fair Dealing, in this very important Business of your Staple; and in Time, I don't doubt, you'll obtain those Praises you so well deserve, even from them who now differ from you in Opinion. May 20, 1732.

CHARLESTOWN, *August* 19.

From Barbadoes we hear, that the Lord How, of the Kingdom of Ireland, is made their Governor.